

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE**

In re:)	Chapter 11
)	
JOANN INC., <i>et al.</i> ¹)	Case No. 25-10068 (CTG)
)	
Debtors.)	(Jointly Administered)
)	
)	Re: Docket Nos. 8 and 82

**INTERIM ORDER (I) AUTHORIZING
THE DEBTORS TO PAY CERTAIN PREPETITION
CLAIMS OF (A) STORE SUPPORT VENDORS, (B) LIEN CLAIMANTS,
AND (C) 503(B)(9) CLAIMANTS, (II) CONFIRMING ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE
PRIORITY OF OUTSTANDING ORDERS, AND (III) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF**

Upon the motion (the “Motion”)² of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the “Debtors”) for the entry of an interim order (this “Interim Order”)

- (a) authorizing the Debtors to pay, in the ordinary course of business, certain prepetition amounts owing on account of (i) Store Support Vendor Claims, (ii) Lien Claims, and (iii) 503(b)(9) Claims, (b) confirming administrative expense priority status of the Outstanding Orders, and (c) granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and upon the First Day Declaration; and the United States District Court for the District of Delaware having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334, which was referred to the Court under 28 U.S.C. § 157 and the *Amended Standing Order of Reference* from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, dated February 29, 2012; and this Court having found that this is a core

¹ The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor’s federal tax identification number, are: JOANN Inc. (5540); Needle Holdings LLC (3814); Jo-Ann Stores, LLC (0629); Creative Tech Solutions LLC (6734); Creativebug, LLC (3208); WeaveUp, Inc. (5633); JAS Aviation, LLC (9570); joann.com, LLC (1594); JOANN Ditto Holdings Inc. (9652); Dittopatterns LLC (0452); JOANN Holdings 1, LLC (9030); JOANN Holdings 2, LLC (6408); and Jo-Ann Stores Support Center, Inc. (5027). The Debtors’ mailing address is 5555 Darrow Road, Hudson, Ohio 44236.

² Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and this Court having found that venue of this proceeding and the Motion in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and this Court having found that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtors' estates, their creditors, and other parties in interest; and this Court having found that the Debtors' notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion were appropriate under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and this Court having reviewed the Motion and having heard the statements in support of the relief requested therein, if any, at a hearing before this Court (the "Hearing"); and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and at the Hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and upon all of the proceedings had before this Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Motion is granted on an interim basis as set forth herein.
2. The final hearing (the "Final Hearing") on the Motion shall be held on February 11, 2025, at 2:00 p.m., (Eastern Time). Any objections or responses to entry of a final order on the Motion shall be filed on or before 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) on February 4, 2025 and shall be served on: (a) the Debtors, JOANN Inc., 5555 Darrow Road, Hudson, Ohio 44236, Attn.: Ann Aber, EVP, Chief Legal and Human Resources Officer; (b) proposed co-counsel to the Debtors, (i) Kirkland & Ellis LLP, 601 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10022, Attn.: Aparna Yenamandra, P.C. (aparna.yenamandra@kirkland.com) and 333 West Wolf Point Plaza, Chicago Illinois 60654, Attn.: Jeffrey Michalik (jeff.michalik@kirkland.com), and Lindsey Blumenthal (lindsey.blumenthal@kirkland.com) and (ii) Cole Schotz P.C., 500 Delaware Avenue, Suite 1410, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn.: Patrick J. Reilley (preilley@coleschotz.com), Stacy L. Newman

(snewman@coleschotz.com), Michael E. Fitzpatrick (mfitzpatrick@coleschotz.com), and Jack M. Dougherty (jdougherty@coleschotz.com); (c) the United States Trustee, 844 King Street, Suite 2207, Lockbox 35, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn.: Malcolm M. Bates (malcolm.m.bates@usdoj.gov); (d) counsel to the Prepetition ABL Agent, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, One Federal Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, Attn.: Christopher L. Carter (christopher.carter@morganlewis.com) and Marjorie Crider (marjorie.crider@morganlewis.com); (e) counsel to the Prepetition FILO Agent, Choate Hall & Stewart LLP, 2 International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, Attn.: John Ventola (jventola@choate.com) and Jonathan Marshall (jmarshall@choate.com); (f) counsel to the Prepetition Term Loan Lender Ad Hoc Group, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, 200 Park Avenue New York, New York 10166, Attn.: Scott Greenberg (SGreenberg@gibsondunn.com), Kevin Liang (KLiang@gibsondunn.com), and Josh Brody (JBrody@gibsondunn.com); (g) counsel to the Prepetition Term Loan Agent, ArentFox Schiff LLP, 1301 Avenue of the Americas, 42nd Floor, New York, New York 10019, Attn.: Jeffrey Gleit (jeffrey.gleit@afslaw.com) and 1717 K Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20006, Attn.: Jonathan Bagg (jonathan.bagg@afslaw.com), and 233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 7100, Chicago, Illinois 60606, Attn.: Matthew Bentley (matthew.bentley@afslaw.com); (h) counsel to Gordon Brothers Retail Partners, LLC, Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, New York 10020, Attn.: Steven Reisman (sreisman@katten.com) and Cindi Giglio (cgiglio@katten.com); and (i) any statutory committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases.

3. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, on an interim basis, to pay all or part of, and discharge, on a case-by-case basis, the Trade Claims, *provided* that such payments shall not exceed \$6,570,000 in the aggregate pending entry of the Final Order.

4. All undisputed obligations related to the Outstanding Orders are granted administrative expense priority in accordance with section 503(b)(1)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code.

5. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to pay all undisputed amounts relating to the Outstanding Orders in the ordinary course of business consistent with the parties' customary practices in effect prior to the Petition Date.

6. As a condition to receiving payment hereunder, the Debtors, in their sole discretion, may require, by written agreement, such parties to continue supplying goods or services to the Debtors in accordance with trade terms at least as favorable to the Debtors as those practices and programs (including credit limits, pricing, cash discounts, timing of payments, allowances, product mix, availability, and other programs) consistent with the parties' ordinary course practice (collectively, the "Customary Trade Terms"). The Debtors reserve the right to require more favorable trade terms with any party as a condition to payment of any prepetition claim.

7. If any party accepts payment hereunder for a prepetition obligation of the Debtors premised on compliance with the above, and thereafter fails to comply with the Customary Trade Terms, or other such terms as agreed to by the Debtors, then, subject to entry of a final order on the Motion from this Court: (a) any payment on account of a prepetition claim received by such party shall be deemed, in the Debtors' sole discretion, an improper postpetition transfer and, therefore, immediately recoverable in cash upon written request by the Debtors; (b) upon recovery by the Debtors, any prepetition claim of such party shall be reinstated as if the payment had not been made; and (c) if there exists an outstanding postpetition balance due from the Debtors to such party, the Debtors may (i) elect to recharacterize and apply any payment made pursuant to the relief requested by the Motion to such outstanding postpetition balance and

(ii) take any and all appropriate steps to cause such supplier or vendor to repay payments that exceed the postpetition amounts then owing to such supplier or vendor.

8. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Order, the Motion, or its attachments, the priority status of a creditor's claim, including that of claims arising under section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code, shall not be affected by whether such creditor provides services or goods to the Debtors under Customary Trade Terms, or otherwise.

9. Any Trade Claimant that accepts payment from the Debtors on account of all or a portion of such party's claim pursuant to this Interim Order shall be deemed to (a) agree to the terms and provisions of this Interim Order and (b) have waived, to the extent so paid, Trade Claims of any type, kind, or priority (including any reclamation claim), against the Debtors, their assets, and their properties. The Debtors shall provide a copy of this Interim Order to any Trade Claimant to whom a payment is made pursuant to this Interim Order.

10. Nothing herein shall impair or prejudice the Debtors' ability to contest, in their sole discretion, the extent, perfection, priority, validity, or amounts of any claims held by any Trade Claimant. The Debtors do not concede that any claims satisfied pursuant to this Interim Order are valid, and the Debtors expressly reserve all rights to contest the extent, validity, or perfection, or to seek the avoidance of all such liens or the priority of such claims.

11. Notwithstanding the foregoing, prior to entry of an order granting the relief requested in the Motion on a final basis, the Debtors are not authorized to pay any prepetition amounts on account of Trade Claims before the applicable due dates of such claims.

12. The banks and financial institutions on which checks were drawn or electronic payment requests made in payment of the prepetition obligations approved herein are authorized to receive, process, honor, and pay all such checks and electronic payment requests when

presented for payment, and all such banks and financial institutions are authorized to rely on the Debtors' designation of any particular check or electronic payment request as approved by this Interim Order.

13. Notwithstanding the relief granted in this Interim Order and any actions taken pursuant to such relief (including any payment made in accordance with this Interim Order), nothing in this Interim Order is intended as or shall be construed or deemed to be: (a) an implication or admission as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any particular claim against the Debtors under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable non-bankruptcy law; (b) a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's rights to dispute any particular claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any particular claim; (d) an implication, admission, or finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim, other priority claim, or otherwise of a type specified or defined in this Interim Order or the Motion or any order granting the relief requested by the Motion; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (f) an admission as to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or other encumbrance on property of the Debtors' estates; (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's claims, causes of action, or other rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; (h) an approval, assumption, adoption, or rejection of any agreement, contract, lease, program, or policy under section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (i) a concession by the Debtors that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory, or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the relief requested in the Motion are valid, and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly reserved to contest the extent, validity, or perfection or seek avoidance of all such liens; (j) a waiver of the obligation of any party in interest to file a proof of

claim; or (k) otherwise affecting the Debtors' rights under section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code to assume or reject any executory contract or unexpired lease. Any payment made pursuant to this Interim Order is not intended and should not be construed as an admission as to the validity, priority, or amount of any particular claim or a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's rights to subsequently dispute such claim.

14. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to issue postpetition checks, or to effect postpetition fund transfer requests, in replacement of any checks or fund transfer requests that are dishonored as a consequence of these chapter 11 cases with respect to prepetition amounts owed in connection with the relief granted herein.

15. The Debtors have demonstrated the requested relief is "necessary to avoid immediate and irreparable harm," as contemplated by Bankruptcy Rule 6003.

16. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Interim Order, any payment made, or authorization contained, hereunder shall be subject to the "Approved Budget" as defined in the orders of the Court approving any use of cash collateral in these chapter 11 cases.

17. The Debtors shall maintain a matrix summarizing the name of each Trade Claimant paid on account of its Trade Claims and the amount paid by each Debtor to each Trade Claimant on account of its Trade Claims. On a monthly basis, the Debtors shall deliver an updated copy of the matrix to the U.S. Trustee and any statutory committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases.

18. Nothing in this Interim Order authorizes the Debtors to accelerate any payments not otherwise due prior to the date of the Final Hearing.

19. The contents of the Motion satisfy the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6003(b).

20. Notice of the Motion as provided therein shall be deemed good and sufficient notice of the Motion and the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a) and the Local Rules are satisfied by such notice.

21. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), the terms and conditions of this Interim Order are immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

22. The Debtors are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Interim Order in accordance with the Motion.

23. This Court retains jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Interim Order.



**CRAIG T. GOLDBLATT
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE**

Dated: January 17th, 2025
Wilmington, Delaware